

Interim Measures Taken
with respect to the Eastern
Bering Sea King Crab Resources under
the Bilateral Arrangement
between the Government of
Japan and the Government of
the United States of America

A) Female king crabs, small king crabs less than 14.5 cms. in maximum carapace width and soft-shelled king crabs shall not be retained and used. Any such crabs taken incidentally shall be returned immediately to the sea with a minimum of injury.

B) King crabs shall not be taken by means of fishing gear other than pot and tangle net. The stretched diagonal measure of tangle net mesh shall be no less than 50 cms.

C) Unless otherwise agreed by the two Governments, only pots may be used to capture king crabs for commercial purposes in the area lying seaward of the United States territorial sea and within the following described boundaries:

a line running due west through Sea Lion Rock light and along 55°28'N. latitude to 165°34'W. longitude, thence southwesterly to an intersection of a line passing between Cape Navarin and Cape Sarichef at 55°16'N. latitude and 166°10'W. longitude, thence southeasterly along the Cape Navarin-Sarichef line to Cape Sarichef.

Secretariat note: The bilateral arrangement referred to in the title of this document (see "Treaties and Other International Acts Series 5688, and Series 6155", published by the U.S. Department of State) contains a provision in paragraph 3, item 1, which ensures an agreed total annual commercial catch of king crabs by nationals and vessels of Japan. This agreed total annual commercial catch by Japan was 185,000 cases (48 half-pound cans) in 1965 and 1966, and 163,000 cases in 1967 and 1968.